

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA  
CEDAR RAPIDS DIVISION**

JORDAN JOHNSON,

Plaintiff,

vs.

IOWA STATE PENITENTIARY,

Defendant.

No. C13-0096-LRR


**ORDER**

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The matter before the court is the plaintiff's letter, which the clerk's office construed as a complaint under 42 U.S.C. § 1983. The clerk's office filed such complaint on September 20, 2013. The plaintiff did not submit the required filing fee or an application to proceed in forma pauperis. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 1914(a) (requiring \$450.00 filing fee for civil actions, except that on application for a writ of habeas corpus the filing fee is \$5.00); 28 U.S.C. § 1915 (explaining in forma pauperis proceedings). Further, the plaintiff's letter is not sufficient to commence an action. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 3 (indicating a civil action is commenced by filing a complaint); *see also* Fed. R. Civ. P. 8 (addressing general rules of pleading). Consequently, the court is unsure what type of action, if any, that the plaintiff is trying to commence. Accordingly, this action is dismissed without prejudice.

**IT IS SO ORDERED**

**DATED** this 28th day of October, 2013.

  
LINDA R. READE  
CHIEF JUDGE, U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF IOWA